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Message Text

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63
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 AID-20 OMB-01 DRC-01 /170 W
---------- 022890
R 071145Z MAR 74
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6080
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

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EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PO, PG, AO, MZ, SG
SUBJ: COMMENT ON SPINOLA BOOK

REF: 1. LISBON 778 2. LISBON 807 3. CONAKRY 328

1. SUMMARY: SENEGALESE PRESS AND INFORMATION MINISTER HAVE REACTED ON WHOLE FAVORABLY TO SPINOLA BOOK, WHILE VISITING LUIS CABRAL IN ARRIVAL COMMENT, WAS MORE GUARDED. END SUMMARY.

2. ON FEB 23 LE SOLEIL RAN FAIRLY FACTUAL BUT FAVORABLE SUMMARY STORY ON SPINOLA BOOK, EVIDENTLY DRAWING ON AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE, CONCLUDING WITH STATEMENT THAT GENERAL HAD PRAISED SENGHOR AS QTE A POLITICIAN, HUMANIST, MODERATE AND FARSIGHTED, COMBINING MORAL UNITY AND AFRICAN CULTURE IN HIS WISE CONCEPTION OF NEGRITUDE UNQTE.
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3. SINCE SENGHOR WAS THEN OUT OF COUNTRY AND IN ABSENCE OF GUIDANCE, LOCAL RADIO AND PRESS LEFT STORY ALONE AFTER THAT UNTIL WEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCE OF INFORMATION MINISTER DAOUDA SOW MAR 6 WHEN HE WAS ASKED HIS VIEWS ON THE BOOK.

4. HE REPLIED: QTE THE VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT WHICH IS ALSO MINE IS THAT ONE IS FACED WITH A FACT, A CAUSE WHICH PRESIDENT SENGHOR HAS DEFENDED FOR A LONG TIME. THIS IS THAT THE PORTUGUESE COLONIES IN AFRICA BE PERMITTED FREELY SELF-DETERMINATION AND TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE FORMER COLONIZER. COMING FROM SPINOLA, THESE IDEAS PERMIT THE AUGURY OF THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA BETWEEN PORTUGAL AND ITS OVERSEAS COLONIES. UNQUOTE.

5. LATER THE SAME DAY LUIS CABRAL ARRIVING IN DAKAR FOR AN UNOFFICIAL VISIT, FOR WHICH HE WAS NEVERTHELESS MET AT AIRPORT BY FOREIGN MINISTER ASSANE SECK, WAS ALSO ASKED ABOUT SPINOLA BOOK, AND REPLIED:

6. QTE. IT IS NECESSARY TO STUDY WHAT SPINOLA HAS SAID IN HIS BOOK. WE KNOW THAT HE IS A GREAT DEMAGOGUE WHO SPEAKS MUCH AND MAKES A GOOD MANY PROMISES. ALL THE TIME HE REMAINED AMONG US AS MILITARY GOVERNOR HE ONLY REPRESSED OUR PEOPLE AND SOUGHT TO FURTHER THE EGOTISTICAL INTERESTS OF THE COLONIALIST PORTUGUESE IN OUR COUNTRY. UNQTE. HE DECLARED THE PAIGC ALWAYS READY TO NEGOTIATE BUT PROFESSED ASTONISHMENT THAT THE SPINOLA THESES APPEARED IN A BOOK AND NOT AS EMANATING FROM PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT.

7. COMMENT: AS DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY LISBON WELL AWARE, NOT ONLY DO SPINOLA THESES AS OUTLINED LISBON 778 CLOSELY PARALLEL SENGHOR'S OWN OFT-EXPRESSED VIEWS ON EVOLUTION PORTUGUESE-AFRICAN RELATIONS, BUT THERE APPEARS ALSO UNDERLYING PERONS# ADMIRATION OF TWO MEN FOR EACH OTHER WHICH WILL NATURALLY COLOR GOS POSITION WHERE SPINOLA AND HIS VIEWS CONCERNED. ONE CAN ASSUME OUTCOME OF INTERNAL POLITICAL DIALOGUE DESCRIBED LISBON 807 WILL BE WATCHED WITH DEEP INTEREST FROM
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HERE.
AGGREY

NOTE BY OCT: # AS RECEIVED. SERVICED UPON REQUEST.

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